

An Essay
on
Syphilization.

Respectfully Submitted to the
Faculty of the Homoeopathic Medical
College of Penn^a

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"But Jove, who saw from high with just disdain
The dead inspired with vital breath again,
Struck to the center with his flaming dart
The unhappy founder of the Godlike Art" Annae VII. 7.

"Why," says a critical writer of the middle
ages, "should Esculapius be thus struck
with a thunder-bolt for restoring Hippocrates
to life, and his followers be pardoned who send
so many souls from life to death?"

Could the shade of Hippocrates have
crossed the Styx and wandered again
through his favorite haunts, what a picture
of his fast-vanished would then have been presented
to him—How had it stood the test of ages?
After the lapse of full two thousand years

He finds but little change in that vast edifice
of which he had so firmly laid the foundation.
Many indeed essayed to add their work
to his, but none, on comparison with the
original, was found to harmonize - And now
lying round about and obstructing every approach
he was gathered into innumerable piles the result
of the labours of those, wishing to add a stone to the
vast creation of his genius - Now alas, only
hindrances in the paths of future labours. The
superstructure had yet to be accomplished nor
had he yet been found who had the ability
to undertake it.

Throughout the long list of great names
I see but emblazoned on the title pages of
historic medicine. How many do we find to
have in reality accomplished nothing?

Beginning with Podilus, Asculapius' son,

who first drew life blood from the Roman vein,
we find nothing recorded until the advent
of Hippocrates, with his many aphorisms - After him
Ctesippus appears upon the stage and
overthrows all his teacher had advanced.

He in turn is treated in like manner by one
Heraclitus - Many followed him each in
turn condemning the doctrines of his predecessor;
until at length Galen steps in, and with
his four elementary qualities of Airy's - heat,
Cold, Dryness & moisture - held sway until the
time of Paracelsus who considered it his part
in the drama to overthrow everything advanced
before and to re-establish medicine on a new
basis - Thus we obtained a vast mass
of Eclecticism from which it was the difficult
task of the student to call what might be
true & useful - But "Truth" could no

longer brook the inglorious bonds which clamed
it to the one idea of our illustrious prede-
cessor Hippocratis, but in the year of "Similia
similibus" rose like a mutor in the far
off horizon, passing only in its course to take
its place as a star of the first magnitude -
Mark how the sage with glass in hand,
scans the wide expanse - see with what
pleasure he recogniz's each familiar group
passing in review before him - once the companions
of his midnight vigil - night after night he
thus has sat each on its turn bringing some new
food for reflection, but at length his inactive
mind has scanned all within its reach and
now wanders at will through the barren fields
which he has spoiled - and look with what
despair he now regards what was once the
source of so much gratification - And will

he bright, for Nature yields not tamely after
Secrets - But now with dimmed spirit he
Searches with falcon eyes their innermost depths
but still Dame Fortune forsakes him - yet still
his countenance brightens - and now it is changed
again - surely 'tis some chimera of an excited
imagination that thus blots out all other objects
from his view - his hand is passed across
his manied eyes - he looks again, and still
his cautious mind dare scarce believe his
eyes - he know by intuition that he lies before
him in his mind's grasp that long sought for
object -

Thus it was Similia was fledged -
Amid the trap of sophistry with which
Cullen enveloped each idea, however plausible
the discriminating mind of Hahneman, intuitively
as it were, first detected the existence of his

universal principle -

The faithful reaction, from the shock which the medical world received when Dr. Sinde enunciated his theory, had hardly obtained when it was again aroused by Hahnemann's "Spirula" - The history of its development is too well known to need comment - it is the Primer of the Student of Homoeopathy. But what as to its state at the present day?

Each Dr. man is differently constituted from his fellow - as no body so in mind, the one stands premininently above the other - How then could we expect a similarity of sentiment? though they may agree as regards the truth of any principle, still they always differ more or less as regards the mode of its application - So it has

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been with Christianity - the numerous Sects
of Christians all agreeing in the Essence
of the faith, but differ in regard to the
Jews &c. So it is now with Homœopathy,
all agreeing in the truth of "Similia" but
differing somewhat as to its extent & mode
of application - Such indeed has
been the fate of every great truth that has
been dwelt upon by the mind of man -
Some minds are satisfied with the practical
application of such truths - they behold
the effect, they have the cause at their
fingers end, - the knowledge of the how and
the wherefore they have not nor can for -
They gaze into the vista beyond and see nothing
but an interminable trap of facts & theories
and take advantage of the experience of others
which has fully proved the folly of the multitude

wisely Content themselves with the Evidence
before them — Others again must know the
why & the wherein of every thing; they seek to
fathom the nimble recesses of Nature, and
by their Euphoric Wisdom compel her to yield
up her greatest secrets. As well might
she attempt to answer that all-important
question "What is life?" as well attempt
the solution of the problem of Eternity —
the bare idea of which is far beyond our
Comprehension — as explain the "modus
individuandi" of a day, dynamized or not, ~~on the~~
It has indeed been the fortune of many to have
wasted this time and talents in abortive search
for that hidden power which exerts its influence
in every form & feature of life — gradually
led on by some ignarant fatuous of their excited
imagination, until at length they have become

builded & loose themselves in a trap of
infmitful thines of their own creation - Such
is the result of all such trains of reasoning
which would place man on the same stand-
point from which Nature views the beauty and
harmony of her works - - - - -

There is one peculiar characteristic
of many Homeopathists, and that is "the
great solicitude they have for the source of
all information" repudiating every thing save
of Alopathy - They forget the result of
Hahnemann's search amongst the Alopatic
Works and in a spirit of false pride ask
"Can any good come out of Nazareth?"
They would, no doubt, Content themselves
with the prima-pars thoughts of the
followers of Hahnemann - Many of whom
might be greatly benefited by careful

or reflection on that remark of the Driss Cullen
"that a very futile source of false facts, is the
habit of hiding the authors of observations which
are often too hastily made, and sometimes perhaps
entirely dressed in the Closet."

The records of Med. Amisprudence & Physiolog
of the old School are as invaluable
to us as the well authenticated pronings of
Hahnemann - In them we find the only means
of supplying the many gaps now in our
Material Medico - And also in many of
them most extensive & most plausible theories
we catch glimpses of the gentle law of
"Similia" - Their many experiments guided by
Empiricism alone often result in additional
Confirmation of its truth -

When it was announced to the world of
Medicine that Syphilis had been cured by

desolated inoculations of the Syphilitic Vines
it was not denounced without a hearing as is
usually the fate of such seeming Extravagance, but
giving the evidence all due weight a conclusion
is deferred until further results may be obtained.

Thus it was with this subject of Syphilization
broached for the first time some six years since.
Meeting with impartial judgment even in the
most critical journals of England

It had its origin with a Frenchman,
M. Arzais Durame, who while experimenting
upon Animals found that after a number of
inoculations they became proof against the
Syphilitic Vines - Starting from this he conceived
the idea of using Anterior inoculations for
the Cure of Syphilis - and which according
to him & a few others has been speedily
realized - It was at first proposed

as a prophylactic against Syphilis; but
this Chemical idea was soon abandoned
on reflecting that this disease, so horrid in
its nature, is reserved for those who attract
it themselves — About the same time
a Dr. Spinoz of Paris was possessed of the
same idea — and experimenting on his patients
forthwith, was very successful; reporting some fifty
or sixty cases — all of which he alleges to have
cured — Prof. Dr. Wilhelm Boett, of
the University of Bonn, goes still farther and
shows us when it is, or is not of avail — He
thus describes the process —

"Without any
other preparation than a warm bath, or in my
private practice even without this, I apply
on each thigh, and on each arm, or on the
sides only, the moxibustion in every one of

these places, with matter taken from a primary
ulcer, or from an artificially produced one in
a person who has been syphilitized - I choose
the first named place for those who are lying
in the Hospitals, but I inoculate the sides
of those, who, during syphilization, are going
out attending to their business; however I must
add, that I never confine my inoculations
exclusively to the sides; if they do not prove
effectual there, I apply them on the thighs,
on which we shall almost always find
the ulcers to be larger, deeper, and of longer
duration; therefore I think this place the best
and surest jail inoculating there - Every third
day I inoculate anew; as long as the last
inoculation produces pustules, I take the
matter from these - In some instances the
inoculated person becomes proof to infection

of virus; I then take the matter for inoculation
from another, preferring a case that has had
a different origin; this then proves effectual.
But sometimes they remain proof to the also,
and then I seek for a third source; and then
I go on as long as any matter will operate¹¹

He claims that immunity follows the above
treatment which on the average requires about
three months. The symptoms of Constitutional
syphilis not always vanishing immediately but
sometimes lingering for two months.

According to him it does not cure all cases
in those who have been treated with mercury
he employs other medical treatment before
he produces any effect - also in affections
of the osseous system - it lessens the pain
somewhat but produces no apparent effect
- he also uses iodine and bijol about

a beneficial effect — known diseases & mental maladies are separable to mercury & for this reason are not affected by the process —

In slanders on record during the space of six years which this system has been practised —

Hember has said that a chancre cannot be produced in a person affected with secondary syphilis, by matter taken from one of his own sores — Record coincides with him but ventures no further —

We have frequently of late years seen incidental mention of the circumstance without comment — But now Dr. W. H. Porter of the Royal Col. of Surgeons of Ireland asks attention to the fact so frequently observed, but so often passed by without notice, "that if a tainted mother has a pocky child, she may tend & suckle the child without the slightest

risk of being inoculated by it, but if she gives
it out to another woman to nurse, this latter will
be most certainly affected" — From this he
obtains, and sustains as far as possible with
facts from his own experience & that of others, the
law that "the infection of Syphilis never
abstems upon itself or contaminates the female
from which it has been derived" — Now
supposing this law to be true — though many
doubt it often from mere Scepticism — Calling
to mind also that syphilization is only practised
on those affected with Indury or tertian Syphilis
when the matter inoculated is taken from a
primary sore on the person of another — also the
manner in which the process is carried on
the matter for a fresh inoculation taken from
that sore which immediately preceded it —
the time also taken to produce immunity

Generally in the neighborhood of three months -
not forgetting that the patient has at the time
consuming through his veins a fair sample of that
poisonous wine - Can we explain the apparent
cure in any other way than by ascribing it
at once to the principle "Similia"?

The protracted stage of the primary cure
is well known to be but a local disease -
about the fourth day it generally begins
to change its character and the general
system shows signs of irritation - and then
the process of complete absorption goes on unless
checked by appropriate treatment -

That the poison exists in the systems of
those affected in different degrees of strength
there can be no doubt - Indeed we see evidence
of the fact each day of practice - This may
be owing to the modification by treatment

or by the natural strength of the Constitution
enabling it in a great degree to be thrown
off - That the degree of strength of the
virus of the primary sore exceeds that which
lies latent in the human organism is
easily conceived - as the virus must be of
a greatly form to be absorbed into the system
& found ~~com~~^{ming} with every fluid of the body -
now in the production of Syphilization the
patients are those having the poison lying
latent in their systems - on inoculating
them with the virus taken from a primary
sore, the degree of virulence of the poison
so overbalances the Constitutional affection
that the characteristic sore is produced -
the second inoculation follows with the
same result, the virus still exceeding in strength
the Constitutional disease - then the third in

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like manner — but all this time while
they are attempting to produce new pustules,
they severally produced take on the prop-
of absorption and ^{add} this power to the Condi-
tional sins — each succeeding inoculation
thus becoming less active until at length
no effect whatever is produced — having no
proper — arrived at that point at which
the two sins of distinct separate origin have
become so amalgamated as to become one
and the same, and because "the infection
of Syphilis never contaminates the Sins
from which it has been derived" "the charac-
teristic effect is wanting — Having effected
this much they try another sins and the
same process is gone through with always
producing the same result — perfect immunity
from the matter taken from a sore upon the

patient himself - but each virus of distinct
origin producing the characteristic effect -
Can we call this a cure, even an alleviation?
For during the process of inoculation they are
obliged to use internal treatment at the
same time, to allay the additional irritation
produced by the local sores - And
indeed in many cases recorded by
Dr Bochart we find that he continued
to give his antidotal remedies at the same
time he was pursuing the process of inoc-
ulation - Then how we have a patient using
an external remedy and at the same
time taking an antidote internally - And
in those cases which Dr Bochart & has
once suffered Dr Bochart is it not probable
that may be of such constitution that it
would require a powerful exciting cause to

cause the latent disease —

But independent of every other consideration since it cannot affect the well known results of mercury so universally joined with Syphilis — why should we submit any one to so trying an experiment — particularly since in the pages of our *Medical Inquiries* we find the records of more sure & speedy means of relief — Why not at once adopt Priou's Janvito treatment by which he pretends that "in from four to six weeks he heals every Constitutional syphilis, that he never sees any relapses and still less any paralytic mental malady &c" If we omit our such treatment why not at once modify it and add "Syphilis" to our *Medical Inquiries* —